GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2488
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2017
Construction of Projects on Mahanadi River by Chhattisgarh
Pradhan Shri Nagendra Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Odisha has raised certain objections to the Union Government on the projects being constructed by the Government of Chhattisgarh across Mahanadi river in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/being taken by the Union Government to address the said objections so far;

(c) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has violated any norms of the Agreement of 1983 signed between the two States;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the action taken/being taken by the Union Government to restore such violated terms and conditions of the said agreement; and

(e) the mechanism developed by the Union Government to ensure adherence to the terms and conditions of the agreement by the States sharing river water and to avoid river disputes across the country along with the other steps taken/ being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b) The Government of Odisha had raised certain objections over construction of barrages, & reservoir structures taken up by Chhattisgarh. An Inter-State meeting was held on 29.07.2016 chaired by Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to MoWR, RD & GR with the Chief Secretaries of the two States, to resolve the issues. Subsequently, a meeting was chaired by Minister MoWR, RD & GR with Chief Ministers of concerned States on 17.09.2016 to resolve water resources issues/Projects in Mahanadi Basin between the two States.

(c) to (e) In the Inter-State meeting of 17.09.2016, it was decided to form a Special Committee as well as an Expert Committee, as suggested by Govt. of Odisha. The Ministry constituted two teams from CWC (one for each State) to visit and list out the water resources project in Odisha and Chhattisgarh which have been constructed or are under construction without the approval of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of MoWR, RD & GR. While relevant information from Chhattisgarh has been received, information from Odisha has not been received.

This Ministry vide letter dated 22.09.2016 communicated the proposed composition of Expert Committee and Terms of Reference for suggesting measures for monitoring the issues on Mahanadi. While the Government of Chhattisgarh has nominated their representative on the Expert Committee, Government of Odisha has not nominated their representative on the Expert Committee so far. A reminder dated 08.11.2016 was also sent to Government of Odisha. However, the response of Government of Odisha has not yet been received.

On the request of Government of Odisha for constitution of a Tribunal under section 3 of the ISWD Act, 1956, the Central Government in accordance with section 4 (1) of the ISRWD Act, 1956 have constituted a Negotiation Committee vide Ministry's OM dated 19.01.2017.

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